

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 16th September 1893.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

| No. | Names of newspapers. | Place of publication. | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. |
|-----|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| | BENGALI. | | | |
| | Monthly. | | | |
| 1 | "Māsik" ... | Calcutta ... | ..... |  |
| | Fortnightly. | | | |
| 2 | "Bankura Darpan" ... | Bankura ... | 360 | |
| 3 | "Grāmvasī" ... | Ramkristopur, Howrah ... | 1,000 | |
| 4 | "Kaliyuga" ... | Calcutta ... | ..... |  |
| 5 | "Kasipur Nivāsi" ... | Kasipur, Barisāl ... | 300 | |
| 6 | "Navamibir" ... | Ghatail, Mymensingh ... | 500 | |
| 7 | "Sadar-o-Mufassal" ... | Tahirpur, Rajshahi ... | 650 | |
| 8 | "Ulubaria Darpan" ... | Ulubaria ... | 755 | |
| | Tri-monthly. | | | |
| 9 | "Hitakari" ... | Tangail Mymensingh... | 800 | |
| | Weekly. | | | |
| 10 | "Bangavāsi" ... | Calcutta ... | 20,000 | 9th September 1893. |
| 11 | "Banganivāsi-o-Prakriti" ... | Ditto ... | 8,000 | |
| 12 | "Burdwān Sanjivani" ... | Burdwan ... | 320 | 5th ditto. |
| 13 | "Chāruvārtā" ... | Sherpur, Mymensingh ... | 300 | 4th ditto. |
| 14 | "Chinsura Vārtāvaha" ... | Chinsura ... | ..... | 10th ditto. |
| 15 | "Dacca Prakāsh" ... | Dacca ... | 5,000 | |
| 16 | "Education Gazette" ... | Hooghly ... | 1,050 | 8th ditto. |
| 17 | "Hindu Ranjikā" ... | Boalia, Rajshahi ... | 212 | |
| 18 | "Hitavādī" ... | Calcutta ... | 3,000 | 7th ditto. |
| 19 | "Murshidābād Pratinidhi" ... | Berhampore ... | ..... |  |
| 20 | "Pratikār" ... | Ditto ... | 611 | |
| 21 | "Rangpur Dikprakāsh" ... | Kakinia, Rangpur ... | 170 | |
| 22 | "Sahachar" ... | Calcutta ... | 800-1,000 | 6th ditto. |
| 23 | "Samaj-o-Sāhitya" ... | Garibpore, Nadia ... | 1,000 | |
| 24 | "Samaya" ... | Calcutta ... | 3,000 | 8th ditto. |
| 25 | "Sanjivani" ... | Ditto ... | 4,000 | 9th ditto. |
| 26 | "Sansodhini" ... | Chittagong ... | ..... | 8th ditto. |
| 27 | "Sāraswat Patra" ... | Dacca ... | (300-400) | 9th ditto. |
| 28 | "Som Prakāsh" ... | Calcutta ... | 800 | 11th ditto. |
| 29 | "Srimanta Sadagar" ... | Ditto ... | ..... |  |
| 30 | "Sudhakar" ... | Ditto ... | 3,600 | 8th ditto. |

| No. | Names of newspapers. | Place of publication. | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. | |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Daily. | | | | | |
| 31 | "Banga Vidya Prakashika" ... | Calcutta ... | 500 | 10th to 14th September 1893. 8th, 9th, 12th and 13th September 1893. | |
| 32 | "Bengal Exchange Gazette" ... | Ditto ... | ..... |  |  |
| 33 | "Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika" ... | Ditto ... | 1,500 | | |
| 34 | "Samvad Prabhakar" ... | Ditto ... | 1,435 | | |
| 35 | "Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ... | Ditto ... | 300 | 8th, 9th, and 11th to 14th September 1893. | |
| 36 | "Sulabh Dainik" ... | Ditto ... | ..... |  |  |
| ENGLISH AND BENGALI. | | | | | |
| Weekly. | | | | | |
| 37 | "Dacca Gazette" ... | Dacca ... | 500-600 | 11th September 1893. | |
| HINDI. | | | | | |
| Monthly. | | | | | |
| 38 | "Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika." | Darjeeling ... | 400 | 7th September 1893. | |
| Weekly. | | | | | |
| 39 | "Aryavarta" ... | Dinapore ... | 750 | | |
| 40 | "Bihar Bandhu" ... | Bankipore ... | 500 | | |
| 41 | "Bharat Mitra" ... | Calcutta ... | 1,500 | | |
| 42 | "Champaran Chandrika" ... | Bettiah ... | 350 | | |
| 43 | "Desi Vyapari" ... | Calcutta ... | ..... |  |  |
| 44 | "Hindi Bangavasi" ... | Ditto ... | 5,000 | | |
| URDU. | | | | | |
| Weekly. | | | | | |
| 45 | "Akhbar-i-Al Punch" ... | Bankipore ... | 750 | 11th September 1893. 8th ditto. | |
| 46 | "Anis" ... | Patna ... | ..... |  |  |
| 47 | "Calcutta Punch" ... | Calcutta ... | ..... |  |  |
| 48 | "Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide" ... | Ditto ... | 300 | | |
| 49 | "General and Gauhariasfi" ... | Ditto ... | 410 | | |
| 50 | "Mehre Monawar" ... | Muzaffarpur ... | ..... |  |  |
| 51 | "Reis-ul-Akhbar-i-Murshidabad" ... | Murshidabad ... | 150 | | |
| 52 | "Setare Hind" ... | Arrah ... | ..... |  |  |
| 53 | "Shokh" ... | Monghyr ... | 100 | | |
| URIYA. | | | | | |
| Monthly. | | | | | |
| 54 | "Asha" ... | Cuttack ... | 80 | | |
| 55 | "Echo" ... | Ditto ... | ..... |  |  |
| 56 | "Pradip" ... | Ditto ... | ..... |  |  |
| 57 | "Samyabadi" ... | Ditto ... | ..... |  |  |
| 58 | "Taraka and Subhavarta" ... | Ditto ... | ..... |  |  |
| 59 | "Utkalprabha" ... | Baripada ... | 250 | | |
| Weekly. | | | | | |
| 60 | "Dipaka" ... | Cuttack ... | ..... |  |  |
| 61 | "Samvad Vahika" ... | Balasore ... | 225 | | |
| 62 | "Uriya and Navasamvad" ... | Ditto ... | 420 | | |
| 63 | "Utkal Dipika" ... | Cuttack ... | 400 | | |
| PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM. | | | | | |
| BENGALI. | | | | | |
| Fortnightly. | | | | | |
| 64 | "Paridarshak" ... | Sylhet ... | 480 | Second fortnight of Bhadra 1300B.S. | |
| 65 | "Silchar" ... | Silchar ... | 250 | | |
| 66 | "Srihattavasi" ... | Sylhet ... | ..... |  |  |

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The special frontier correspondent of the *Samay* of the 8th September gives translated extracts from a book called "The Political History of Afghanistan" from the pen of the ex-Amir Ayub Khan, and makes the following remarks:—

SAMAY,
Sept. 8th, 1893.

A book written by Ayub Khan. The book contains matter for reflection. It is written in an easy and thoughtful style, and breathes a spirit of patriotism. It is certainly creditable to the English that a captive of theirs can write a book with such an independent spirit. The writing of this book is a proof that royal captives in the hands of the English enjoy a certain amount of ease and liberty. It is hoped that the book will be translated into English.

2. The *Sudhakar* of the 8th September says that the present ruler of Beluchistan is a mere puppet in the hands of the English. There will therefore no longer remain any independent country of the name of Beluchistan, and British territory will virtually extend to the Persian Gulf.

SUDHAKAR,
Sept. 8th, 1893.

3. The *Bangavasi* of the 9th September says that, as the British merchants are now saying that they have an interest in maintaining the independence of Siam, it is not likely that, considering that the greatness of England depends entirely on the enterprise of her merchants, the British Government will be any longer able to remain indifferent in regard to Siam, however serious the consequence of its interference in the French-Siam imbroglio may be.

BANGAVASI
Sept. 9th, 1893.

4. The same paper finds its fears realised, inasmuch as the Amir has refused permission to the British Mission to proceed to Cabul. The Mission, it has now come to this, may be allowed to come up to Jellalabad, where it may be met by the Amir's Commander-in-Chief Gholam Hyder. But will the British Government pocket the insult thus offered to it twice in connection with this Mission affair? It has now become quite clear that the Amir is not a man to be flattered into submission. Let the British Government now eat the fruit of the tree of poison which it has planted with its own hand.

BANGAVASI.

5. The Frontier correspondent of the *Sanjivani* of the 9th September writes the following from Attock, under date the 27th August, 1893:—

SANJIVANI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

Kalat affairs. The patriotic and spirited Mussalmans of Kalat, notorious for their strong love of liberty and fervent loyalty to their Chief, are today overwhelmed with a crushing disaster, the like of which was not witnessed in their country during the last two hundred years. The independent Chief of the vast dominions known as Kalat is today a prisoner in the hands of the English, and all Kalat is resounding with cries and lamentations. The supreme ruler of the people who in the time of Lord William Bentinck raised their heads, and in the words of Sadi proudly told the English that "for two emperors even a whole empire would not be found sufficient," has been today deprived of the sweets of liberty, and thrown into prison as one seeking the favour of the British Government. Where is now the Chief of that people who with smiling faces but in words of bitter satire advised Lord Canning "to walk along the straight path, though the journey might prove rather long?" It is not a common danger that has now befallen Kalat, and the news has given rise to a mighty agitation all over Central Asia, embracing Siberia, Turkey, Persia, Arabia, and all neighbouring Mussalman countries, and is said to have reached even the Mussalmans of Egypt. The gradual downfall of the different Mussalman States on the Indian frontier has at length opened the eyes of the entire Mussalman people in Asia, and they believe that the object of the English is to gradually weaken the Mussalmans. The subject is being discussed in every household in Afghanistan, Beluchistan, and Turkistan, and signs of grave discontent are visible among the Mussalman community of the Punjab. The recent events in Kalat, however, instead of frightening the neighbouring hill tribes have rather made them more hostile than ever. We, of course, do not know what the Mussalmans in the North-Western Provinces, Oudh, Bengal, Bihar, the Central Provinces, and Bombay think of these matters. There is a large Mussalman population in Sind, and

many of the Mussalman families in that province have relations in Kalat. And who knows what these families are thinking of the recent events in that State? Why has this sudden and dire misfortune overtaken the Khan Sahib of Kalat? Why does he find himself a prisoner in the hands of the British Government? Who shall answer these questions? So crooked are the ways of politics that many of its problems do not always admit of solution, and even when they are solved, the solution is kept secret. Again, even if there be anything like a disclosure of the secret, the disclosure is neither complete nor satisfactory. It is, moreover, extremely hazardous to attempt to obtain any information regarding the political secrets of the British Government, for such attempts are exposed to danger at every step. So for fear of the law, the police, and other evil consequences, people often find it necessary to keep many things untold. I shall therefore barely hint at one or two matters.

The Khan of Kalat is now a prisoner in the hands of the British Government. Who shall say why he has been made a prisoner? The true reason is of course known only to them who have made him their prisoner, and to him who is weeping for his lot in the prisoner's cell. What do you or I know of the matter?

After making a treaty with Afghanistan, the English cast their eyes on Beluchistan—that vast tract of adjoining country owning the ascendancy of a people fiercer even the Afghans. The English cast their eager glances on Kalat, and the palace of the Khan Sahib forthwith began to be furnished with valuable presents from the British Government. The Khan was quite charmed by presents received from the hands of Englishmen, and wrote to them that “we are friends of the British people, and the Beluchis will always remain their friends even if the Afghans prove refractory.” After a few days of friendship, the English learnt on enquiry that “there never had been any rebellion, quarrel, plunder or fighting in Kalat, and much valuable treasure had been amassed, and that Nadir Shah and others who had plundered India had on their way back made considerable presents of money to the Khans of Kalat.” The information had a disturbing effect on the peace of many Englishmen, and in their dreams they began to see the treasury of Kalat. Shortly after this it began to be stated in the Anglo-Indian newspapers:—

- (1) That the Khan of Kalat was interfering with the religion of his Hindu subjects and subjecting them to extreme oppression;
- (2) That the Khan was an inveterate opium-eater, and under the influence of opium was neglecting his duties as a ruler, and that consequently his subjects were groaning under oppression;
- (3) That there were in the Khan's harem two hundred and fifty concubines, who had been brought there by force;
- (4) That the Khan was in the habit of writing letters against the English to the Persian, Turkish, Afghan, and Russian Governments; and
- (5) That the Khan was hostile to the British Government, oppressed his subjects, possessed an immoral character, was grossly vicious, oppressed the protégés of the British Government, was a murderer, a drunkard, &c., &c., &c.

Gradually the Khan came to be charged with every conceivable offence, and it was at last decided that there was not another villain in this world like the Khan Sahib. And so a speedy deliverance of this “great sinner” was resolved upon. The English wrote:—“In accordance with the injunctions of that noble, holy, and ancient religion which we, the civilised Europeans, practise and preach, the English people regard the whole human race as brethren, and set themselves to redress their grievances. The story of your oppressions sends a thrill of horror through the heart, and unless you reform your character and disposition, we shall be compelled to interfere in the affairs of your State.” In this letter to the Khan Sahib, the word “humanity” was repeatedly used, and its copious use only made the Khan Sahib smile. He probably thought that “humanity” was perhaps some fierce wild animal, but he did not understand that on the plea of this extraordinary thing “humanity” a large number of Native States had been brought to ruin. The plea of “humanity” proves as much disastrous to Native States as the plea of “rupture of the spleen” proves in the case of natives when the value of their lives has to be assessed.

Be that as it may, the Khan did not see all this, and wrote in reply that he was an independent ruler, and that the English had not the least authority over him. This reply drove the English mad with rage, and immediately preparations for war began to be made. Precisely at this time information was received that the Khan had treasuries in three principal cities within his State, and that all his treasuries were full. There was in the Kalat treasuries one crore and sixty lakhs of rupees. The coins were of pure silver, the value of a rupee being three and a half annas more than that of a rupee of the British Government. And the upshot of all this was that the Khan was made a prisoner, but how I shall not describe. He was brought to Quetta and confined in a two-storeyed house; but on the outbreak of a revolt of the hill tribes on the Kalat border last week, he has since been removed to the fort. The Khan has all his sons with him, except the eldest Mamud Khan, who nominally fills the throne, and is doing his best to please the English. The deposed Khan has brought with him forty lakhs of rupees. The money of course is in the custody of the English. The name of the Khan is Khademuddin. He is strong and stout, possesses a fine presence, and is well versed in Persian. His sister has gone to Simla, accompanied by a number of ladies, to see the Viceroy, for the purpose of obtaining a pardon for her brother. But for what act or offence a pardon will be sought, or who the plaintiff is, nobody knows. Her prayer, therefore, will not probably be granted. The English officials say that the Khan Sahib is an extremely cruel man and oppressed his subjects. But nobody knows who were the victims of his cruelty and oppression. The men are not yet born whom the newspapers have given out as the victims of his oppression. Be that as it may, the Khan had amassed vast sums of money, and, as the *Lahore Tribune* says, a person who had so much money in his treasury could not but attract the covetous eye of the English. The English also say that the Khan was implicated in the murder of the late Prime Minister of Kalat. Whether there is any truth in the allegation I cannot tell; but I know that the murdered minister was a favourite of the English Government.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

6. The *Hitavadi* of the 7th September says that theft and dacoity are now on the increase in the country. A sense of insecurity of life and property now prevails in places where formerly people lived in safety and security. There are places near Calcutta where people dare not walk out alone after nightfall. It was not so 20 to 25 years ago. Thefts, dacoities, and highway robberies are now everyday occurrences. The police is unable to stop this recrudescence of crime, and their failure is due no doubt to their indifference in the matter. The authorities ascribe this increase of crime to the prevalence of scarcity in the country. This explanation is no doubt correct; nevertheless there can be no denying that if the police officers kept themselves on their guard, badmashes would be unable to ply their trade so fearlessly as they do now. These men no longer fear the police, and this proves the incapacity of the latter. The Inspector-General of Police says in his last Administration Report that, as steps have been taken to remedy this state of things, he expects better results this year. But six months of the current year are over, and yet this expectation has not been realised, and cases of theft and dacoity are still on the increase. Within the last month several cases of theft and highway robbery took place within the jurisdiction of the Naihati thana, in the 24-Parganas district. Having regard to the present state of things, it has become the duty of District Superintendents of Police and their Assistants to keep strict watch over their subordinates. They should pay sudden visits to the thanas, and in the thanas should not content themselves with merely examining the thana records.

HITAVADI,
Sept. 7th, 1893

7. The *Samay* of the 8th September gives a translation of a letter published in the *Indian Mirror* newspaper on the subject of the police oppression at Balia in connection with the recent riots, and makes the following remarks:—The letter has astonished and confounded the writer. He never thought that oppression like

SAMAY,
Sept. 8th, 1893

this was possible under British rule. The riots were due to the thoughtlessness of a young Magistrate, and as the police could make no arrests at the time of the disturbances, it is now arresting anybody and everybody in anger. Such anarchy does not look well under British rule, however fit and proper it may be in the country of the half-civilised Russian, or the Amir of Afghanistan. The writer expected redress from the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, but his expectation has not been fulfilled. It is now hoped that Lord Lansdowne will order an enquiry into the affair and inflict adequate punishment on the guilty.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

8. The *Bangavasi* of the 9th September says that the circular said to have been issued by the District Superintendent of Police, Barisal, requiring his subordinates to secure

75 per cent. of convictions in cases sent up by the police on pain of loss of promotion was no doubt very rightly condemned as holding out an inducement to subordinate Police officers to fabricate evidence; and the Bengal Government, too, has no doubt acted wisely in ordering its withdrawal. But who can say that the District Superintendent did not act from a good motive in issuing the circular? The police of Barisal is notorious for worthlessness, corruption and fabrication of false evidence, and who can say that the District Superintendent did not issue the circular with the object of inducing his subordinates to investigate cases with greater care, and so to ensure the conviction of real culprits?

SANJIVANI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

9. The *Sanjivani* of the 9th September says that thefts have become very rife since April last in Samta within the jurisdiction of the Baguri thana in the Jessore

district, cases of theft occurring almost every night. The village chaukidars perform their duty most perfunctorily. As the local police has been unable to check the thefts, it is hoped that the higher authorities will take more effectual steps in the matter.

10. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu guide* of the 11th September asks the River Police to look sharp, because thefts and dacoities have become very rife on the river Hooghly.

Thefts and dacoities on the river
Hooghly.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Sept. 5th, 1893.

11. The following is taken from an article headed "Which would you have?" which has been communicated to the *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 5th September:—

The Deputy Magistrate.

Admitting for argument's sake that but for the Deputy Magistrates the number of thieves and dacoits in the country would have shown a slight increase, we say it in the most emphatic and unreserved manner that we would rather have the dacoit than the Deputy. The Deputy Babu of the day is doing a hundred times more harm to native society than the thief and the dacoit. Let us consider the question for a moment. In order to understand what promotes or injures the interests of society, we must first try to realise the purpose for which society exists. It seems to us that purpose is nothing more or less than the religious advancement of those constituting a society, and the removal of such causes as may be calculated to interfere with that purpose, and a society approaches the ideal standard of excellence in proportion as it offers facilities for the attainment of this purpose, and a person or thing injures society precisely to the extent to which it places obstacles in the way of the attainment of this purpose. Now, let us see which of the two, the dacoit and the Deputy, causes greater obstruction than the other to the members of the Hindu society in the practice of their religion. It should be noted here that in order to enable society to fulfil its purpose measures should be taken to keep it alive and to preserve and protect it. The sense of mutual dependence which exists among the members of a society constitutes its life, and the extent to which a man weakens or destroys this sense of mutual dependence in a society is also the extent of the injury he does to society. Now, does anybody need to be told how the Deputy Babu of the day is doing this work of destruction? The people have ceased to fear one another, and the distinction of superior and inferior is gradually disappearing from native society, and this for the simple

reason that there can be no fear where there is no punishment. And absence of fear destroys the distinction of superior and inferior, and leads to unrestrained license. A native father pulls his son by the ear, and the Deputy Babu sends him to jail for six months for the offence. The son consequently ceases to fear the father. The power of punishing one another hitherto exercised by society is thus disappearing in all matters, and the result is that the most trifling difference between husband and wife, father and son, or brother and brother now leads one of the parties to present himself before the Deputy Babu. There would not be much to object to even in this if the Deputy were a member of the native society. But whatever the cause, he has ceased to belong to that society. Thus it has come about that the sense of mutual dependence which existed in native society is slowly disappearing, and that society is therefore losing its vitality. But the dacoit does not kill society in this way, nay, he indirectly strengthens society instead of killing it. Their fear of the dacoit leads all the villagers to help one another, and the expectation of help in danger and emergency leads them to show proper respect to those in their community who are entitled to it. So society gains by the existence of the dacoit. The dacoit also serves society in another way, namely by making it necessary for its members to organise defensive measures. A sense of perfect security is not beneficial, for, as Shakespear says, "security is mortal's chiefest enemy."

It is owing to the Deputy Babu of the present day that falsehood is being encouraged in this country, truth is coming to be disrespected, and the glory of the Hindu religion with its institutions of caste and *asrama* life is being destroyed, with the result that violence is being done to the people's *dharma*. The dacoit is a sinner and an oppressor, and does not even hesitate to kill the son in the presence of his father, but for all that society does not suffer much for his atrocities. For, in place of one person killed by him, there are ten that take their birth to make up the loss which that one death causes to society.

But the people of this country are doomed to witness the inhuman acts which are being done in their presence by the Deputy Magistrates, and they would rather be killed by dacoits than be subjected to the agony of witnessing the oppression of their friends and relations by the Deputies. There are not a few men among the dacoits who like Tantia Bheel possess many good qualities, and the dacoit class may yet give another Sivaji to the country. This is why we prefer the dacoit to the Deputy, and shall be happy if, notwithstanding the difficulties and dangers which threaten our domestic and social life, our *dharma* is made safe and free from danger.

The Deputy Babu is using really strange logic for the purpose of passing heavy sentences on accused persons. In the case of Jali Duleni *versus* Chandra-bhusan Swarnakar, the Deputy Magistrate in charge of a sub-division in the Burdwan district remarks in reference to the contradictory statements made by a witness on the side of the prosecution that "if a case is to fall for these trifling contradictions, no case in an Indian Court would stand." This one small sentence is enough to show how eager the Deputy Babu is to convict accused persons. And it is no wonder that the man who has the misfortune to find himself in the clutches of a Deputy like this should concoct cartloads of lies to defend himself.

12. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 8th September says that a letter has appeared in the *Indian Mirror* in which some Mukhtears of Rampore Hât in the Birbhum district complain of their having been summarily ordered

SULABH DAINIK,
Sept. 8th, 1893.

The European Deputy Magistrate of Rampore Hât.

by the European Deputy Magistrate of the place not to practise in his court, and say that on appeal the order has been upheld by the Commissioner of the Division. But it is not improbable that the Commissioner did not interfere with the order because it was passed by a European Deputy. It is difficult to see how Government has kept such a whimsical man at the head of a sub-division. The white skin seems to carry the day everywhere.

13. The *Samay* of the 8th September says that recently a gun, unfit for use, having been found in the house of a respectable gentleman of Kurulgachi, a village within the Meherpur sub-division of the Nadia district, he was

SAMAY,
Sept. 8th, 1893.

The Assistant Magistrate of Meherpore.

prosecuted for keeping firearms without a license. The gentleman's plea was that the gun in question belonged to a friend of his, who had simply kept

it with him, and that it was unfit for use. Nevertheless, the Assistant Magistrate of Meherpur sentenced him to rigorous imprisonment for a month and a fine of Rs. 200 ! This sentence was on appeal changed into a fine of only Rs. 5. This case proves how power turns the heads of young officers, and it is for this reason that this paper has always protested against entrusting young civilians with large powers.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

14. The *Bangavasi* of the 9th September says that the decisions arrived at in the cases of the three or four batches of Bombay rioters whose trials have been concluded are characterised by curious discrepancies. Of the members of the same batch, some have been sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, others to various amounts of fine, while others again have been sentenced to whipping, and the rest have been altogether acquitted. There seems to have been some political considerations at the bottom of these decisions.

SARASWAT PATRA,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

15. The *Saraswat Patra* of the 9th September says that everybody may form his own opinion of the Secretary of State's despatch on the question of the executive *versus* the judiciary. It is not known whether the Secretary of State's decision has satisfied the High Court, but it is certain that the executive is not dissatisfied with it. It is true the Secretary of State has upheld the prestige of the Executive Government, but the victory in the contest has been awarded to the High Court.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Sept. 11th, 1893.

16. The *Dacca Gazette* of the 11th September says that, according to an English newspaper, Babu Prasanna Kumar Karmama, Deputy Magistrate of Patuakhali in the Backergunge district, convicts in every case which is sent up by the police. But there is nothing to wonder at in this. Babu Prasanna Kumar is a clever man, and is only quietly preparing the way to his own promotion.

(d)—Education.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Sept. 5th, 1893.

17. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 5th September refers to the case of a weak and sickly student of the Calcutta Normal School who was so severely hit on the head by a pundit of that institution that his brain has been seriously injured, and there is probability of his losing his reason, and says that this pundit is perfectly unfit for the office of a teacher of little boys.

DARUSSALTANAT AND
URDU GUIDE,
Sept. 11th, 1893.

18. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide*, of the 11th September, cannot agree with Muhammad Ibrahim, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Bihar Circle, that because the Arabic Department of the Calcutta Madrassa is not in an efficient condition, it ought to be abolished, and adds that if the Department is not in an efficient condition, it ought to be improved and not abolished.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

CHARUVARTA,
Sept. 4th, 1893.

19. The *Charuvarta* of the 4th September publishes a letter signed by thirty rate-payers of the Sherpur Municipality in the Mymensingh district, complaining that the town has made no progress, but has on the contrary gone backward in sanitary matters under the non-official Chairman of the Municipality, and praying that he may be replaced by an official Chairman.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

20. The *Bangavasi* of the 9th September has the following:—
A fight in the Burdwan Municipal Office. Rai Nalinaksha Basu Bahadur is the Chairman of the Burdwan Municipality. He was made a Rai Bahadur on account of his success in the management of municipal affairs. Rai Bama Charan Pramanik Bahadur is an Assistant Engineer, and is at present in charge of the Damudar embankments. He is also a Commissioner of the Burdwan Municipality. Both these gentlemen are great favourites with Government, as is clear from the titles they have won. But it is said that they had first a quarrel and then a free exchange of kicks and blows the other day within the Burdwan Municipal Office. Is this the outcome

of Local Self-Government and of the high education which the two Babus have received? The writer does not know whether the Babus are now ashamed of what they have done, but, speaking for himself, he must say that he has been very much pained to hear that they have conducted themselves in this way. Yes, these are the men of whom it is said that they are highly educated and hold a position in the country.

21. The same paper says that great oppression has been committed in the assessment of municipal rates upon the rate-payers of Bhatpara within the jurisdiction of the Naihati Municipality in the 24-Parganas. The latrine-tax, too, has not been assessed upon the jute mills in Gauripur, though it has been assessed upon all private buildings situated near the mills.

The road passing through Kaibartapara is in a most dilapidated condition, and though the attention of the Vice-Chairman has been repeatedly drawn to its condition, he has taken no steps to have it repaired. The Kanknara Jute Mills are not within the jurisdiction of the Municipality, and yet night-soil from the mills is deposited on the trenching ground of the Municipality.

The Municipality has been a gainer to the extent of 11 annas only by the suit brought against Kshirod Mitra, though the cost incurred in it has been something like Rs. 800.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

22. The *Sahachar* of the 6th September has the following :—

Sir Charles Elliott on the Bihar cadastral survey.

In his letter in the *Times* newspaper, Sir Charles Elliott has again said that the indigo planters of Bihar are in favour of the cadastral survey, while the zamindars have ceased to object to it. Now, the other day the indigo planters publicly protested against the survey, and the writer is glad that the *Englishman* has given a fit reply to Sir Charles' letter. What would have happened to a native of this country if he had written a letter like this? Fie; tricks of this nature are very reprehensible in a man occupying the post of Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

SAHACHAR,
Sept. 6th, 1893.

23. The *Bangavasi* of the 9th September says that it is not true, as Sir Charles Elliott has stated in his letter in the *Times* newspaper, that the indigo-planters of Bihar are one and all in favour of the cadastral survey, for everybody knows that Sir William Hudson and many other indigo-planters of position in North Bihar are opposed to the measure. How could a man of Sir Charles' position make such a groundless statement? Does not conduct like this diminish the people's respect for the authorities?

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

24. A correspondent of the *Charuvarta* of the 4th September complains of the bad condition of the two roads which pass through Gauripur in the Mymensingh district, and asks the authorities to have them metalled as a relief work in this time of distress.

CHARUVARTA,
Sept. 4th, 1893.

25. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* of the 7th September says that the ferry fund road from Gosvami-Durgapur to the Halsia station in the Nadia district becomes impassable for passenger and cart traffic during the months of rain. It is repaired every year in a most perfunctory manner, the repair consisting in simply throwing some basketfuls of earth here and there on the road. Now, instead of wasting money in this way, the authorities should spend it in metalling piecemeal year after year until the whole length of the road is made pucca.

HITAVADI,
Sept. 7th, 1893.

26. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash* of the 11th September says that some of the carriages on the East Indian Railway line are kept in a very untidy condition. A gentleman had recently to travel from Assensole to Calcutta, and he reserved one-half of the second class carriage No. 777. The fittings of the compartments were coarse and uncomfortable. The cushions were very hard and had canvas for their covering, and were covered with dust

SOM PRAKASH,
Sept. 11th, 1893.

and cinder. It looked as if the carriage had not been cleaned within a week. The water-closet attached to the compartment used by the gentleman was full of offensive smells.

(h)—General.

SAHACHAR.
Sept. 6th, 1893.

27. The *Sahachar* of the 6th September makes the following remarks on Sir Charles Crosthwaite's Riot Resolution. Sir Charles Crosthwaite's Resolution on the Azamgarh riots:—

The Resolution proves that whatever he may have done when the disturbances actually broke out, Mr. Dupernex did not grant applications for cow-slaughter after a careful consideration of the matter. Its perusal in an unbiassed or impartial spirit must also convince any one that the Hindus were primarily responsible for the disturbances. Pandit Vishun Narayan Dhar said also the same thing. Sir Charles Crosthwaite himself enquired into the subject of these riots, and his conclusions are based on reports submitted by one Hindu Police Inspector, two Hindu Deputy Magistrates, and one Hindu tahsildar. The writer regrets that the Gorakshani Sabhas in Azamgarh and the adjacent districts did not act in a manner consistent with the policy of Government and the primary object which they themselves have in view. Their object, which is no other than the improvement of the breed of cattle, and the erection of asylums for deceased animals, is not only not bad, but is perfectly laudable. But in the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Sabhas latterly went beyond their primary object and resolved to prevent all cow-slaughter. And, ultimately, at the commencement of the present year, they assumed the character of a large league. Formerly, the payment of subscriptions to the Sabhas was quite voluntary, but latterly the Sabhas held meetings and passed resolutions, making it compulsory for people to pay subscriptions in aid of their objects, and to do certain other things, thereby interfering with the rights of the public, and forcibly levying contributions on them. Reference is then made to the part of the Resolution in which His Honour speaks of the distribution of notices by the agents of the Sabhas asking Hindus not to sell cattle to Mussalmans, and the following remarks are made:—The writer fears that these notices are forged. Sir Charles admits that they were not dated, and the question arises, who wrote them and where did the police get them, and whether or not they are the work of wicked men. It is true a Hindu Inspector sent these notices to the Magistrate; but where is the guarantee that he was not duped, or that he did not make use of this dodge with a view of securing official favour? The Hindu Inspector Jahar Singh having reported to Mr. Dupernex that the Hindus were determined to prevent cow-slaughter by force, and that the Mussalmans were equally determined to slaughter cows anywhere and everywhere, the latter asked the thanadars to draw up a list of the places where disturbances were likely to break out. This was his first mistake. As soon as the Inspector submitted his report, it was the Magistrate's duty to bring the sardars of both peoples before him and to fix the places for sacrifice in consultation with them. But instead of that he set about devising means for the prevention of impending disturbances. The writer cannot agree with what His Honour says on the subject. The substance of what he says about the conduct of the local officers is that they showed real ability when the disturbances broke out. But to this it may be replied that an officer who, with the power of such a great Government at his back, flies on the breaking out of a disturbance is simply not true to his salt. The writer must nevertheless say that a perusal of the Resolution has led him to alter the opinion which he had formed of Mr. Dupernex's conduct after reading the writings in the native press about him. Sir Charles Crosthwaite has written the Resolution in a truly impartial spirit, and in a manner befitting a man of his position. It is hoped that the Gorakshani Sabhas will carefully consider what the Lieutenant-Governor has said about them and conduct themselves accordingly. The people of this country enjoy greater liberty in religious matters than even the people of England, and let them not do anything calculated to hurt the religious feelings of others. It is clear from the Resolution that the Hindus had sufficient time for obtaining redress even when the Magistrate and the Divisional Commissioner refused to help them, for there was the Lieutenant-Governor, and they might have appealed to him, and the slaughter of cows in new places would in that case have been certainly disallowed. And if His Honour had refused to

interfere, there was the Viceroy, and the Hindus might have appealed to him. And supposing they had not time to make references to higher authorities, they should not, even then, have broken the peace. If they had kept quiet then and laid their case before Government afterwards, their position would have been greatly strengthened. But instead of doing that, they used force and brought on a lot of trouble upon themselves and their families. The writer fears that the Gorakshani Sabhas will not be able to accomplish the object which they have in view. Sir Charles Crosthwaite has given them truly friendly advice, and they should act in accordance with it. Both Hindus and Mussalmans should henceforward conduct themselves with caution.

28. The same paper has the following:—

What Sir Charles Crosthwaite should now do.

Incidents are daily occurring which confirm the writer's suspicion that the recent cow-slaughter riots were due to the machinations of Russian spies. It is therefore high time that Government did something to reassure the people. Sir Charles Crosthwaite should issue a proclamation explaining to the Hindus that in his eyes all sections of the people are equal. His Honour says that the Hindus are still in a sullen mood. If so, who but himself can remove that sullenness of theirs? There are times when a Government ought to treat its subjects with indulgence, as if they were so many spoilt children. Lord Canning admitted the necessity of such treatment. The people now in *hajat* awaiting trial for the recent disturbances should therefore be released, and the additional police, which has been quartered in certain villages should be withdrawn.

SAHACHAR,
Sept. 6th, 1893.

29. The *Samay* of the 8th September says that the action of Lord Harris

SAMAY,
Sept. 8th, 1893.

in rewarding those citizens of Bombay who prevented their co-religionists from joining the recent riots there is deserving of very high praise. It is in this way that good rulers establish peace and please their people. To blindly abuse and punish only one party in a riot like the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces does more harm rather than good in the long run.

30. The same paper has the following:—

Mr. Radice.

It is rumoured that Mr. Radice of Balasore has been transferred to Mymensingh. Has Government punished him for his acts of oppression by transferring him to a larger and more responsible department? Is this justice? Will there be no end of such unjust acts of Government?

SAMAY.

31. The same paper writes as follows:—

Promotion of a Sub-Deputy Collector.

Babu Srinath Chatterji is a first class Sub-Deputy Collector. Two or three months ago his name stood 22nd in the list of Sub-Deputy Collectors. But as he rendered great help to Mr. Phillips in the Mymensingh case, his name was, on the latter's recommendation, suddenly made ninth in the list, and shortly afterwards he ceased to be a Sub-Deputy Collector and became a Deputy Magistrate. Now, what has Srinath Babu done to deserve such rapid promotion? It is hoped that the new Lieutenant-Governor will enquire into the matter.

SAMAY.

32. The *Sudhakar* of the 8th September says that, according to the *Pioneer*,

SUDHAKAR,
Sept. 8th, 1893.

A proposal to overawe the Hindus.

the ensuing trooping season will be taken advantage of to pass some eight or nine hundred British troops through Balia, Azamgarh and Goruckpore with a view of overawing the Hindus in those places. But it is perfectly certain that no such demonstration will be of the least avail so long as cordial feelings are not established between Hindus and Mussalmans. It is necessary therefore that the authorities should first of all try to restore good feelings between the two peoples.

Some Assam matters.

SANJIVANI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

Assam:—

(1) One Baradan, a resident of Sibsagar, had taken from Government lease of a certain quantity of land at fixed rates of rent for ten years. But lately Mr. Monahan, finding the lands much improved in quantity through the exertions of the lease-holder, enhanced the rates of rent, though the term of the lease was not over. Baradan filed a civil suit against Government, which,

was dismissed by the Munsif on the ground put forth by Government that under the law relating to the land in Assam no Civil Court in that province had jurisdiction to entertain the suit. This plea was framed by the Chief Commissioner, the Commissioner, and the Deputy Commissioner of Sibsagar in consultation with each other. It is idle therefore to expect that Baradan should get redress in Assam, as any appeal from the Munsif's judgment will lie to one or other of the officers who had assisted in framing the reply. Considering that Baradan's case is not the only one in which rent has been increased in Assam in this way, the people of Assam should make it a test case and raise by subscription sufficient money to have it appealed to the High Court.

(2) On the occasion of the Mohurram two *tazzia* processions issue in Sibsagar. One of the *tazzias* belongs to Bhardul, a man who has influential supporters, and the other to one Imaman. On the occasion of the last Mohurram festival, the District Superintendent of Police, Mr. Dalrymple-Clark, issued an order to the effect that Bhardul's *tazzia* should precede that of Imaman. Hearing this Imaman resolved that he would rather not bring out his *tazzia* than take it out after Bhardul's as ordered by the District Superintendent. Mr. Dalrymple-Clark saw that if Imaman stuck to his resolution not to bring out his *tazzia*, his order might be interpreted into an interference with the religion of the people, and might therefore lead to disturbances. He therefore ordered Imaman to enter into a personal recognisance for five hundred rupees, and to find two securities for a further sum of five hundred rupees. This order was made at 2 P.M. on the day preceding the *tazzia* day. But though the money and the securities were found at once, they were not accepted till the evening of the following day, when the time for bringing out the *tazzia* was over. All this time Imaman was kept in *hayut*. It is said that Mr. Dalrymple-Clark is doing such highhanded things in virtue of the magisterial powers with which he was vested during the Manipur war, and of which he has not since been divested. If so, it is for the judicial authorities to decide whether it is lawful for the District Superintendent of Police still to exercise his judicial powers.

SANJIVANI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

34. The same paper says that the policy adopted by Sir Charles Crosthwaite in regard to the cow-killing quarrels has already begun to bear evil fruit. Sir Charles's attitude towards the *Gorakshani Sabhas* has led the police and the Magistracy of the North-Western Provinces to prosecute the associations and their preachers. And the working of the associations is being closely watched by detectives.

The writer then refers to the Baraich case, and says that, though the speech delivered and the pictures shown by Brahmananda Swami were not at all objected to by the Muhammadan Sub-Inspector of Police and the Muhammadan zamindar who were present at the meeting, Mr. Gibson, the Deputy Commissioner, had the lecturer charged under sections 107, 153, and 298 of the Indian Penal Code, and, having tried the case himself, sentenced the accused to a fine of two hundred rupees. Mr. Gibson said that the picture of the Rakshasa with a pig's head rushing to kill a cow was intended to stand for a Muhammadan, because none but Muhammadans killed cows, and as the pig was the Muhammadan's abomination, the picture was all the more calculated to give offence to the latter. Nice reasoning, this! Since this case the police has been dogging Brahmananda Swami wherever he is going. It is hoped that Sir Charles Crosthwaite will be pleased to see that the man is not thus needlessly persecuted.

SANJIVANI,

35. Referring to the precautions which were taken at Agra to prevent a collision between Hindus and Mussalmans on the occasion of the Chilum festival, the same paper says that it will be difficult to live in this country if, at every festival, a quarrel between Hindus and Mussalmans has to be apprehended. Indeed, it is high time that the leaders of the two communities took steps to prevent these quarrels. Sir Charles Crosthwaite has widened the breach between the two peoples by throwing the whole blame of the riots on the Hindus and showing indulgence to the Mussalmans. It seems to be the policy of the North-Western Provinces authorities to weaken the country by setting the two peoples by the ear. Peace and friendly feelings among the various classes who inhabit India will

The Government of the North-Western Provinces in the cow-killing riots.

be impossible so long as the authorities continue to show special favour to some and to rebuke others at every step.

36. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 11th September refers to the Govern-

The Government order in the ment letter on the Balasore case, and remarks as follows:—

SULABH DAINIK,
Sept. 11th, 1893,

The people of Bengal will never forget what the Officiating Lieutenant-Governor has done in this case. His Honour has apparently realised it to be the duty of a ruler to punish the wicked and to protect the well-behaved, for otherwise he would not have been able to provide an adequate remedy for the oppression of a native by a white man. The writer thanks him truly and heartily for this act of justice. Sir Antony MacDonnell has done honour to the throne of Bengal, the country, that is, which was so much oppressed by Sir Charles Elliott, and has done justice to himself as a ruler. His fame, which has been earned by pleasing his subjects, has immortalised him. Thousands of the people of Bengal feel grateful to him. The case has shown how people in the mufassal are oppressed by hot-headed and foolish officers, and how the higher officers try to hide their offences. The writer is not sorry that Government has withheld permission to prosecute Mr. Radice criminally; for if the punishment which the Lieutenant-Governor has inflicted on him does not bring him to his senses, that effect is not likely to be produced by a criminal prosecution. Moreover, the writer cannot believe that if Mr. Radice had been prosecuted, the officer hearing the case against him would have dealt with it as impartially as the Lieutenant-Governor has done. So it must be admitted that by withholding the permission asked for the Lieutenant-Governor has acted like a far-sighted officer. It is hoped that the punishment inflicted on him will bring Mr. Radice to his senses. The Mahapatra will now see that he is living in British territory, and not in a country ruled by Mr. Radice. If acts of oppression are dealt with in this way, wicked people will not venture to commit oppression any longer. Mr. Phillips, too, acted like Mr. Radice, but he escaped because Sir Charles Elliott was then the Lieutenant-Governor.

37. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 11th September approves

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Sept. 11th, 1893.

A Riot Commission demanded. of the suggestion of the *Daily News* and the *Daily Chronicle* newspapers of England that an independent commission should be appointed to enquire into the recent cow-killing riots. The official reports on the subject will not help any one to ascertain the true cause of these riots, and how that cause may be removed. In the North-Western Provinces these riots were due to the faults of the officers of Government. It is they who encouraged the Mussalmans to slaughter cows in all places indiscriminately. But for this conduct on their part the Hindus would not have been maddened by despair, and the riots would not have happened. All this will have to be explained to Parliament, and a report on the recent riots written on behalf of the people should be prepared and sent to it. All public bodies in the country should co-operate towards this end. The officials will of course throw obstacles in the way of the preparation of such a report, and the fact will have to be brought to the notice of Parliament. The writer cannot expect justice at the hands of a man like Sir Charles Crosthwaite.

38. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 12th September accounts as follows for

SULABH DAINIK,
Sept. 12th, 1893.

Treatment of the Hindus in the the riots that are now frequently taking place in North-Western Provinces. this country:—

There is no limit now to the oppression by Mussalman police officers in the North-Western Provinces. The North-Western Provinces police have had Brahmananda Swami convicted on a false charge of having made a speech about cow-slaughter, which was calculated to lead to a breach of the peace, although there was nothing in his speech that could justly offend the Mussalmans. And is this *administration*? Does it not much better deserve the name of *grinding oppression*? This is in fact nothing more or less than maladministration—maladministration whose immediate effect is discontent, and whose ultimate effect will be riot and disturbance.

This police oppression would not have been half so galling if people had been able to obtain redress on appeal to the authorities. But, as a matter of fact, no such redress can be hoped for by the great majority of people, for the lower courts accept the statements of the police as gospel truths, and there are few who can go to the High Court or the Lieutenant-Governor or the Viceroy for

redress. Ninety-five per cent. of the oppressed persons have to bear this oppression in silence, albeit with hearts seething with discontent. The ring-leaders of all the disturbances that are now taking place in the country are to be found among these oppressed people.

Even if the authorities ever show any inclination to remedy this state of things, certain mean-minded papers, whose sole occupation is to make truth appear as falsehood and falsehood as truth, present things in so distorted a shape as to completely mislead the authorities. The result of all this is that there is grinding oppression in the name of administration, and the indiscriminate punishment of the guilty and the innocent in the name of justice.

All that the Hindus say about these riots is rejected as false, while every word uttered by the Mussalmans is accepted as gospel truth. A respectable Hindu of Balia has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment on a charge of having intimidated an oilman not to sell oil to Mussalmans, and on no other evidence than that of certain Mussalman witnesses.

The Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces having now declared the Gorakshini Sabhas to be the cause of the present disturbances, the police is now greatly harassing those Sabhas.

Azamgarh is not more than 10 hours' journey from the residence of the Lieutenant-Governor, and yet old men and boys, aye, even lame and blind persons, were sent to jail on a charge of riot, so to speak, under his very eyes without one word of protest from him.

At Gorakhpur a Hindu had a platform on which the Mussalmans used to rest their *tazzias*. The Hindu having now demolished his platform, he has been sent up for trial on a charge of riot. This is the first time people hear that a man has not the right to deal with his own property as he likes.

Again, in certain districts of the North-Western Provinces, licenses for keeping arms have been withdrawn from the Hindus, the Mussalmans being permitted to use them freely. Do the officials then wish to see the disarmed Hindus perish like moths in the flame of Moslem arms? And is this, too, to be called justice and impartiality?

In conclusion, we request the Government to remove the present ill-feeling between the Hindus and Mussalmans by treating both these peoples alike.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Sept. 13th, 1893.

39. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 13th September has the following:—

The Government of the North-Western Provinces in the recent riots.

The Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces apparently thinks that he will be able to establish peace in the country simply by punishing the Hindus. But His Honour is mistaken in so thinking, for peace will never be established so long as the officers of Government do not treat the different sections of the people with impartiality. As things now stand, the unrest prevailing in the North-Western Provinces will go on spreading to other parts of the country. This is proved by the disturbance which happened the other day in the Basantpur thana of the Saran district. The sight of the Commissariat cattle there would not have moved the Hindus if the officials of the North-Western Provinces had conducted themselves with impartiality. In Azamgar, Balia, Bareilly and other places Mussalmans have been made complainants and witnesses, and Hindus defendants, and there is now a close compact between the Mussalmans and the officers of Government. This compact has driven the Hindus mad in despair, for they have now given up all hope of obtaining redress at the hands of the officers. The bad policy of Sir Charles Crosthwaite is now developing itself and doing more mischief day after day. Lord Lansdowne ought not to remain indifferent at this juncture. In any other country a ruler like Sir Charles would have been removed from office, and an impartial and capable man appointed in his place. But here the removal of a Magistrate from office is believed by Government to involve loss of prestige, so the removal of a provincial ruler is out of the question. The officers of Government are determined to establish peace by putting down the Hindus by every means in their power. But the enforcement of this repressive policy will make many Hindus desperate. And who shall say that the conduct of the officers of Government is not serving as an encouragement to the Mussalmans? The writer cannot suppose, for instance, that at Basantpur the Mussalmans in charge of the Commissariat cattle did not behave improperly or give offence to the Hindus. The Government officials in

the North-Western Provinces are now actuated by anti-Hindu feelings, and as the editors of most of the Anglo-Indian papers are hostile to the Hindus, they have selected the present opportunity to write against them. Thus the Hindus in the North-West find themselves opposed by the Mussalmans, the officers of Government, and the editors of the Anglo-Indian and Mussalman journals. They are thus in a very bad predicament at the present moment. Hindus all over India have become terror-struck at this, and the thought of what may befall them in the future is sorely exercising the minds of the far-sighted among them. At such a time as this, no Hindu editor ought to remain silent. Though their advice will not be accepted by the officers, still all Hindu editors owe it to themselves to give them that advice. The writer is sorry to see a certain influential Hindu journal in an indifferent attitude at this time. It would have been well if some arrangement had been made for the transfer of the riot cases from the courts of Balia, Azamgar, and Bareilly and if the trial of those cases had been entrusted to an independent tribunal consisting of judicial officers from other provinces. Their trial is causing great dissatisfaction. The Government of the North-Western Provinces probably wants to make Parliament believe that a great rebellion has taken place in India, and it is with that object that it is making mountains of mole hills. But it is not sound policy to adopt such a course. The situation requires that there should be an impartial inquiry into these events.

40. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 14th September has the following:—

The North-Western Provinces Government and the Gorakshani Sabhas.

The Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces and his officials have taken a determination to put an end to the *Gorakshani Sabhas*. But how have they come to the conclusion that the suppression of these *sabhas* will give rise to friendly feelings between Hindus and Mussalmans? The Hindu has been a protector and worshipper of the cow from time immemorial; and it will certainly not be sound statesmanship to try to dissuade him from protecting the cow. What the authorities ought to do is to take steps to prevent the cow-protection associations from interfering with cow-slaughter by the Mussalmans and Christians. It would be the height of folly to interfere with the legitimate working of these associations, and thus to deprive them of their very *raison d'être*.

Sir Charles Crosthwaite ought to have seen that the troubles in the North-Western Provinces were due solely to the indiscretion of the officials, and His Honour ought to have taught a lesson to those officials and taken steps to prevent them from bringing about similar troubles in the future. All guilty Hindus and Mussalmans, too, should be dealt with in a strictly impartial manner. It is because Sir Charles Crosthwaite has been so indiscreet as not to treat Hindus and Mussalmans with perfect impartiality that the troubles have not been as yet completely allayed.

41. The same paper is astonished to see Mr. Phillips promoted to the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, just when he has been apologising to Raja Suryya Kanta, and

Mr. Phillips' promotion.

thus admitting his fault in the Mymensingh affair.

42. The same paper says that it is true the punishment awarded to Mr. Radice has not been adequate, but, perhaps, not even this punishment would have been dealt out to him if Sir Antony MacDonnell had not been

Government orders on the Balasore case.

at the head of the administration.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Sept. 14th, 1893.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

43. Eight residents of Srikail in the Tippera district have written a letter

Distress in a village in the Tippera district.

to the *Sansodhini* of the 8th September, stating that the severest scarcity prevails in the place, so much so that some people are almost on the point of death from starvation, and asking for subscriptions from the public for the benefit of the distressed people.

44. The *Bangavasi* of the 9th September says that though it is receiving masses of correspondence from Noakhali, Backergunge, Dacca, Faridpur and Tippera, describing the sufferings of the people in those parts from scarcity, no mention of the distress is found in the *Calcutta Gazette*. How is this?

Government and the distress in East Bengal.

SANSODHINI,
Sept. 8th, 1893.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

Government is not certainly wilfully suppressing the truth as regards the people's real condition. But it is at the same time difficult to disbelieve the correspondents until they are proved to be false.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

45. The same paper says that the Contai sub-division of the Midnapore district has been suffering from failure of crops for the last three or four years, and the prospect before it is not at all better this year. But though all this is admitted in the *Calcutta Gazette*, Government has yet granted no money for relief of the distress prevailing among the Contai people, and money has had to be raised by subscription for the purpose. Will it be an offence to say after this that Government has violated its own promise and misapplied the famine fund? The writer asks this because the authorities have a standard of their own for judging guilt and innocence in such cases.

Distress in the Contai sub-division of the Midnapore district.

BANGAVASI.

46. The same paper has learnt that severe scarcity prevails in Tethrai in the Rangpur district. Coarse rice is selling at Rs. 4-8 per maund, and is not easily available even at that price. Poor widows are in the greatest distress, and are living on charity, which, however, cannot continue long. The prospect of the winter crop is not very hopeful.

Distress in the Rangpur district.

SANJIVANI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

47. The *Sanjivani* of the 9th September says that rice is selling in the Mymensingh district at 7 to 7½ seers per rupee, and in spite of the opposition of the Chairman, Mr. Earle, the District Board has caused one thousand maunds of rice to be purchased, and is selling it to the distressed people at a reduced price. Mr. Earle opposed this scheme of relief probably under the impression that his supporting it would show that though there was distress Government was doing nothing to relieve it. It is also noteworthy that deaths from starvation are being reported as deaths from cholera.

Relief of distress in the Mymensingh district.

DACCA GAZETTE,
Sept. 11th, 1893.

48. A correspondent of the *Dacca Gazette* of the 11th September writing from Srighur in the Tippera district says that on the 25th August last a man named Lulasi Kaivarta, a resident of Maniknagar near Syamgram, committed suicide, because, as appeared from the evidence elicited by the police, he was unable to maintain his family. The editor asks, when will the authorities arise from their sleep?

Distress in the Tippera district.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

SAHACHAR,
Sept. 6th, 1893.

49. The *Sahachar* of the 6th September has the following about Sir Henry Norman's appointment to the Viceroyalty of India :—

Sir Henry Norman's appointment to the Viceroyalty.

The news that the arduous duties of a Governor-General of India will be entrusted to a soldier has taken the press and all leading men in England and India by surprise. It has also given rise to misgivings in the mind of the writer. He cannot see how the people will fare under the administration of a Military Governor-General. It was through the efforts of Sir Henry Norman that the Indian and the Royal Army Corps were amalgamated. Is it a fact that there is in England no better man to take the Viceroyalty of India? Luckless India obtained Lord Ripon after Lord Lytton. But Lord Lansdowne has compelled people to speak well even of Lord Lytton, and General Norman will probably constrain them to praise Lord Lansdowne. Considering the confusion and mismanagement in the administration of India of late years, a man like Lord Northbrook should have been sent out to India. Lord Cornwallis came out to India twice, and if requested by the Maharani and the Prime Minister to do so, Lord Northbrook may come out again. But then in the opinion of old Gladstone any man can govern India.

SAHACHAR.

50. The same paper says that the Commissioner of the Bombay Police has recently detected cart loads of pictures and pamphlets on the subject of the recent riots there. As both Hindus and Mussalmans are trying to exculpate themselves from blame in connection with the recent events, the supply of the said books and pictures must be the work of a third party, and that third party must be Russian spies. There could not be a better proof of it than this.

Russian spies fomenting troubles in India.

51. The *Hitavadi* of the 7th September referring to General Norman's appointment says:—

General Norman's appointment to the Viceroyalty.

HITAVADI,
Sept. 7th, 1893.

The General discharged with credit the duties of every post to which he was appointed. Nevertheless we cannot say how his character will change in consequence of his occupying the Viceregal throne. And the only hope that can be now indulged in is that his mature age will prevent him from making the exhibitions of a hot-headed youth. But, then, there is on the other hand the fear that his age may prevent him from seeing all things with his own eyes, and that he may therefore become a puppet in the hands of his Secretaries. Moreover, the appointment of a military Governor-General at this juncture is calculated to give rise to apprehensions in the public mind.

52. The *Samay* of the 8th September refers to the protest of the Madras Mussalmans against the simultaneous Civil Service examination proposal, and remarks as follows:—

The Madras Mussalmans on the Civil Service Resolution.

SAMAY,
Sept. 8th, 1893.

The *Pioneer's* hand is clearly visible in the affair. His attempts to crush the Congress movement were for a time successful; but as he has now been found out by the people of Northern India, he has transferred his operations to the south. As the Mussalmans of Madras do not know him, he has been able to influence their conduct in the present instance. The *Pioneer's* favourable characterisation of the Madras meeting, which was in reality got up by a few uninfluential men, and the fact that the father of the editor, who still makes his livelihood out of the revenues of India, will bring the meeting's protest before Parliament go to show that paper's connection with the Madras meeting.

53. The same paper referring to General Norman's appointment as the next Viceroy remarks:—

General Norman's appointment.

SAMAY.

The advanced age of the new Viceroy will probably make it difficult for him to discharge properly the arduous duties of his office. Though Sir Henry Norman served in the Military Department of India with credit, the appointment of a mere soldier like him to the office of Governor-General of India has not given satisfaction to the writer. The propriety of entrusting the administration of a large empire to a man who has been successful only in ruling small colonies is also open to question.

54. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 8th September cannot pass any opinion about the new Viceroy, but considers it somewhat

The next Viceroy.

SULABH DAINIK,
Sept. 8th, 1893.

strange and a matter to be pondered over that no nobleman could be found this time to fill the high post. The rumour that Lord Roberts would be the next Viceroy and the actual appointment of a military man to the Viceroyalty are enough to lead people to the conclusion that the internal condition of the country is not all right, and that there is some mystery connected with the Cabul Mission—a suspicion which is further confirmed by the report that Russia is making preparations for occupying Herat, a piece of news which has been published by the English newspapers themselves. At any rate, the appointment of Sir H. Norman to the Viceroyalty is a departure from the traditional policy so long followed in connection with this high office.

55. The *Sanjivani* of the 9th September has the following in reference to the appointment of the new Viceroy:—

The next Viceroy.

SANJIVANI,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

The European community are expressing great dissatisfaction at the appointment of Sir H. Norman to the Viceroyalty. But the native community have as yet no ground for expressing either satisfaction or dissatisfaction. Indeed, they cannot praise or blame the new Viceroy until he has proved by his actions that he is worthy of one or the other. If His Excellency does good to India, the Indian people will ever remain grateful to him; if not, they will not hesitate to condemn his administration.

The famous historian Mr. Froude, who once visited Jamaica, said that he had seen everywhere in that island signs of Sir Henry's good administration. And personally Sir Henry Norman appeared to him a man of noble heart and pure character, but not favourably inclined towards self-government. So, while on the one hand, the Indians have reason to congratulate themselves on the appointment of Sir Henry Norman as their new Viceroy, they are on the other not without cause for anxiety on this score. It is hoped, however, that Sir

Henry, who knows that the Indians are not Negroes, will not become an opponent of self-government in this country.

As Military Member of the Viceroy's Council, Sir Henry did his best to retrench military expenditure. And under Lord Lytton he vehemently opposed that Viceroy's Afghan policy, and, in consequence of differences with him on this subject, ultimately resigned his seat in the Council. Mr. Gladstone is a shrewd man, and it is not unlikely that he has appointed Sir Henry to the Viceroyalty in view of the vast increase which has taken place in India's military expenditure. Or it may be that in his uncertainty about the fate of his Ministry owing to the Home Rule Bill, he is sending out Sir Henry Norman only as a temporary occupant of the Viceregal office.

There is cause for anxiety in the fact that Sir Henry Norman is a brother-in-law of Sir Mortimer Durand, the present Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, and is also a relative of Mr. Chesney, Editor of the *Pioneer* newspaper. Sir Henry Norman has also a host of relatives in the military service of this country. It remains therefore to see whether, at the advanced age of 67 years, and surrounded by subordinates who are his relatives, Sir Henry will be able to rule the country with perfect justice and impartiality.

SULABH DAINIK,
Sept. 9th, 1893.

56. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 9th September has the following on General Norman's appointment to the Viceroyalty of India:—

The new Viceroy.

Sir Henry Norman lived in this country for a long time, and both he and his two nieces married here. It is therefore likely that he will feel greater attachment for India than for England. And as nobody undervalues a thing for which he feels an attachment, Sir Henry, if he looks upon India in the light of his old associations, may do many good things for her. Moreover, his career of advancement commenced in India, where he once served as a clerk on a small salary. All things considered, it is probable that the new Viceroy will look upon India with a kind eye. It is for this reason that the writer is not dissatisfied at his appointment.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Sept. 10th, 1893.

57. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 10th September has the following:—

The new Viceroy.

Many people are objecting to Sir Henry Norman's appointment to the Viceroyalty on the ground that he is neither the descendant of a peer, nor a peer himself. But these people forget that Clive, who laid the foundation of the British Empire in the East, was not a peer until he earned the title himself; that Warren Hastings, who strengthened that foundation, and was the originator of policies which are still followed in the government of this empire, was never raised to the peerage; that Sir John Shore was not a peer; that Sir John Lawrence became a peer only in his latter days. May not Sir Henry, too, become a peer, and that even before he has assumed the Viceroyalty? Indeed, there is nothing astonishing or irritating in the appointment of a man who is not a peer to the Viceroyalty of India.

Some people, again, are objecting to the appointment on the ground that a retired Anglo-Indian ought not to have been made Viceroy. But was not Sir John Lawrence, too, an Anglo-Indian? And seeing that the Viceroy is surrounded by councillors who are all Anglo-Indians, it does not matter much if the Viceroy, too, is an Anglo-Indian. Nay, an honest Anglo-Indian Viceroy may rather be expected not to be led away by evil counsels. And Sir Henry cannot be a very bad man, seeing that he opposed Lord Lytton's measures and was an opponent of that Viceroy's forward frontier policy. It is also a point that under Sir Henry's administration the country can fully expect to steer clear of those troubles which have beset it under Lord Dufferin and Lord Lansdowne, whose ignorance of military matters placed them entirely at the mercy of their military advisers in matters military.

The fittest men for the rulerships in India are those who have experience of the country, and are withal honest and straightforward statesmen. If the political honesty of Anglo-Indians had been equal to their experience of the country, their ranks would have given to the country its very best rulers. Sir John Peter Grant, the second Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, was an Anglo-Indian, and was therefore thoroughly acquainted with the condition of the people, and being also an honest statesman, made the best Governor that Bengal has ever received. And not even Madras and Bombay, which get Governors

direct from England, can name a ruler who can compare with Sir John Peter Grant.

58. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 11th September has the following:—

The Phillips-Surjya Kanta affair. It seems that the Phillips-Surjya Kanta drama is now about to close. The writer has learnt from a contemporary that Mr. Phillips has been asked by a high Government official to apologise to Raja Surjya Kanta for the prosecution which he instituted against him, and that the Raja has consented to withdraw his case against Mr. Phillips on receiving an apology. Now, the country has reason to be specially thankful to the high official in question; for, if the case had proceeded, lots of Government money would have been spent to defend Mr. Phillips. The letter of apology to be written by him will be published in the principal newspapers of India. Mr. Phillips must be a very hardhearted man, otherwise he would not have survived so much insult and disgrace.

SULABH DAINIK,
Sept. 11th, 1893.

ASSAM PAPERS.

59. The *Srihattavasi* for the second fortnight of *Bhadra*, 1300 B.S. says that a large number of people have come to Sylhet

SRIHATTAVASI,
Second Fortnight of
Bhada, 1300 B.S.

Distress in Sylhet. from the interior of the district and are living by begging. In the mufassal most people are living on one meal a day, and some do not get even that, while others are actually starving. Rice, which used to be sold in Sylhet at Rs. 3-8 to Rs. 3-12 per maund, is selling at Rs. 5-12 to Rs. 6-8 per maund. Are the authorities blind to all this? Last year, when rice sold in Mymensingh at Rs. 5 per maund, a howl was raised throughout Bengal, and the authorities took immediate steps to alleviate the distress. But no heed is paid to the fact that people in Sylhet are buying rice this year at the high price named above.

Mr. Lee, the District Officer of Sylhet, recently made a tour through Karimganj and other places in order to ascertain the extent of the distress, and has on his return to town opened a poor-box, and is inviting subscriptions for relieving the distress. But the writer thinks that the prevailing scarcity will not be effectually met in this way. Government should adopt relief measures without a moment's delay. Otherwise large numbers of men will surely die of starvation. The rich people, too, ought to take this opportunity of freely expending their money for the benefit of their poor fellowmen. The Local Board, too, should come forward to save the starving population.

It is hoped that in the present distress, Mr. Lee will follow the example of Mr. Wight, who some years ago earned a lasting name in Sylhet by his sympathy with the people in the distress which was then prevailing.

60. A correspondent of the same paper says that though extreme distress is prevailing in Habiganj in the Sylhet district, the 12th of September has been fixed as the last day for the payment of the land revenue in that subdivision. It is hoped that the Chief Commissioner will, in consideration of the prevailing distress, pass orders directing that the payment of the land revenue may be deferred till the month of *Pous*.

SRIHATTAVASI.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 16th September 1893.

